--Home electronic appliances such as refrigerators are widely used by a variety of consumers having a variety of tastes. In order to satisfy such a variety of tastes of consumers, manufacturers of such home electronic appliances manufacture appliances having multiple functions.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Problems involved in conventional external display devices employed in refrigerators will now be described.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--As shown in FIG. 1, the refrigerator includes sensors S1 and S2 adapted to sense the temperature of a refrigerating or freezing compartment, a compressor 16 used in the freezing operation of the refrigerator, a fan motor 17 operatively connected to the compressor 16 and adapted to circulate cold air through the refrigerating or freezing compartment, and a defrosting heater 18 adapted to remove frost formed before and after the freezing operation.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C4

--Signal processing operation of the external display device having the above-mentioned configuration will now be described.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C5

--The light emitting operation of the light emitting elements LED1 to LEDn based on data output from the microprocessor 12 will be described first.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C6

--When the microprocessor 12 receives signals from the sensor S1 and S2 indicative of the temperature of a refrigerating or freezing compartment, it determines the state of the refrigerator, and then controls operations of the compressor 16, fan motor 17 and defrosting heater 18 in accordance with an appropriately set program.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C7

--Now, a signal transmission procedure will be described which initiates the point of time when the user manipulates an optional key on the external display device 20 to when the microprocessor 12 of the control unit 10 detects the selected key.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C8

--As shown in FIG. 2, the signal lines L1 to L12, which are used to transmit signals between the control unit 10 mounted in the refrigerator body and the external display device 20 attached to the outer surface of the refrigerator door, extend through the hinge hole 31 of the hinge 30. In such a configuration, an increase in the number of signal lines results in a difficulty in inserting those signal lines into the hinge hole 31. Furthermore, the limited size of the hinge hole 31 limits the number of signal lines that can be inserted into the hinge hole 31. This results in a limitation in the quantity of data that can be displayed on the external display device 20.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C9

--Where the external display device 20 is spaced apart from the control unit 10 by a great distance, signal lines having a great length must be used. This results in an increase in manufacturing costs.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

C10

--Therefore, an object of the invention is to provide an external display device of a refrigerator having a configuration capable of achieving a desired

data transmission while using a minimum number of signal lines, having a minimum length, and a method for controlling the external display device.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In order to achieve data transmission between the control unit 100 and external display device 200 through the single signal line L111, an additional signal processing procedure is used, as compared to the conventional configuration. That is, the data transmission according to the present invention is carried out by transmitting an information display command from the first microprocessor 112 to the second microprocessor 221 and then transmitting information from the first microprocessor 112 to the external display device 200 to display the information under the control of the second microprocessor 221.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIG. 5A is a flow chart illustrating the procedure for selectively assigning the right of data transmission to the first and second microprocessors of FIG. 3 in accordance with the first embodiment of the present invention.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--When it is determined at step 301 that a transmission request flag is set in the subject microprocessor, the subject microprocessor is maintained in the current state, namely, in the transmission mode, because the subject microprocessor is currently executing data transmission to the counter microprocessor in a serial interrupt mode as shown in FIG. 5C.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The subject microprocessor then sets a transmission request flag informing the counter microprocessor of a data transmission from the subject microprocessor (Step 323). The subject microprocessor subsequently sets a transmission mode (Step 325). After setting the transmission mode, the subject microprocessor executes a transmission mode operation in the serial interrupt mode as shown in FIG. 5C.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--When the subject microprocessor is set to its transmission mode at step 315 or 325, the data stored in the buffer set at step 311 or 321 is transmitted to the counter microprocessor. This data transmission is carried